GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2461
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2000
GAGLITAND MINES ACCIDENT IN BCCL
BASUDEB ACHARIA;DILEEP SANGHANI

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Court of Inquiry constituted to inquire into the Gaglitand Mines accident in Bharat Coking CoalLimited has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to avoid accidents in Coal mines ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The observations and recommendations of the Court of Enquiry are furnished in the Annexure.

(c): Coal India Limited is taking the following preventive measures for reduction of accidents:

1. Implementation of the statutory rules and regulations.

2. Monitoring the status of safety in mines by the local management, the internal safety organisation(ISO)of the companies as well as by the ISOof CIL;by Workmen's representatives like Workmen's Inspectors; the Safety Committee at the mine level; the Tripartite Committees at the Company level and Trade Union Members of the CIL Safety Board andthe Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines in addition to inspections by the Directorate General of Mines Safety under the Ministry of Labour.

3. Regular review of safety at the monthly meeting of CMDs.

4. Conducting safety audits by external experts and iplementation of the recommendations of the same.

5. Conducting periodic safety drives.

6. By Training and retraining of workmen and supervisors.

7. By Technological improvement to reduce exposure of workmen to mining hazards as given below:

(i) More than 80% of the coal production is done from opencast mines by modern, sophisticated and capital intensive Heavy Earth Moving Machinery, where the mining hazards are less.
(ii) Design of system of support of roof in the development workings in underground mines by scientific support systems based on Rock-Mass-Rating Studies.
(iii) In underground mines progressive use of steel support to ultimately phase out timber support, wherever possible.
(iv) Greater use of quick-setting cement capsule grouted roof bolts for support in development workings in underground mines.
(v) Reduced exposure of workers to mining hazards by increasing use of SDLs and LHDs for loadingoperations in below ground mines.
(vi) Continued efforts towards induction of capital intensive mechanised longwall mining with powered support, where workmen work under skin-to-skin steel roof support in underground mines.